

L. HENKE

# "RAVENING WOLVES"

by  
MONICA  
FARRELL



THIS IS THE WORK OF "CATHOLIC ACTION" IN 1942.  
IT COULD HAPPEN IN CANADA IN 19??

L. HENKEL

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by

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## PREFACE TO THE FIRST CANADIAN EDITION

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"Ravenging Wolves" was first published in Australia by Miss Monica Farrell, converted Roman Catholic who was horrified at the record of bloodshed and murder committed by Roman Catholic Actionists led by priests and monks during the years 1941 - 43 in Europe.

Seeing the same evil system at work in Australia, seeking to bring that sunny land under the heel of the Pope, she vigorously opposed the Papal claims and sought to awaken Australians to the danger.

As the Papacy is a world-wide organization and its tactics are dictated from Rome, its methods are similar in each country and we in Canada can see the same sinister system working in the same way in our midst. Having been driven from her own home in Ireland by persecution, Miss Farrell continued to witness, first in Ireland, later in England, Scotland, Wales and Australia, to the power of a Risen Saviour and the helplessness of a wafer God. The work she founded in Australia is called "The Light and Truth Gospel Crusade," which is a mission for the conversion of Roman Catholics and the awakening of Protestants. That our readers may have an idea of the type of person she is, we give the following brief summary of her life story.

Monica Farrell was born of Roman Catholic parents in the city of Dublin. The youngest member of a large family, she saw three of her sisters enter the Dominican Order of Nuns, one brother preparing to be a priest while still very young died before her birth, one brother became a secular priest and is at present in Australia, a third brother entered a monastery, but later died. It was inevitable that she should have serious thoughts about religion from childhood and not surprising that she should be a very enthusiastic member of the Roman Church.

A Protestant Bible, the property of her Protestant grandmother was in the house until she was seven years old, and

a few stories read from it made a very strong impression on her young mind. The death of her mother when she was seven years old, left little Monica an orphan as her father had died six months before she was born.

In the great upheaval which followed her mother's death, the home furniture including the Bible went under the auctioneer's hammer.

Some years after, Monica becoming alarmed at the thought that all Protestants would go to hell because they did not belong to the "One True Church," asked her sister to send her to a school where she knew she would contact Protestants.

With a view to converting all the Protestants in the school to the "One True Church," Monica set off to school and her first battle was with a Scotch Presbyterian girl named Marjory.

It was very largely due to the influence of this girl's arguments that Monica had her eyes opened to the Paganism of the Roman system. After about a year of disbelief following the shock of disillusionment she was determined to find God and the way to Heaven, and Marjory's constant appeal to the Bible as the Word of God led her to seek the Saviour where He has promised to be found. "Search the scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me" John 5: 39.

A better account of her experiences is to be found in the booklet entitled "From Rome to Christ."

# "RAVENING WOLVES"

Written and compiled by

**MONICA FARRELL**

**Light and Truth Gospel Crusade**

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"Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheeps' clothing but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits."

Matt. 7: 15, 16.

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Although conscious of the fact that there are many sincere and loveable people who are Roman Catholics by accident of birth, it is, nevertheless, true that Romanism as a system has always been relentlessly cruel and that torture and murder have ever been weapons used, not only against heretics, but also against her own adherents, should they show any sign of lapsing.

It is only when conditions prevailing in a country, through the alertness of Protestants, prevent Rome from carrying out her designs that her methods, for the time being, are changed and she seeks to rule by apparently gentle persuasion. The old proverb says, "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance." Rome may in adversity act like a lamb, in equality like a fox, in supremacy, she will still act as a tiger.

Her present technique is, first of all, to call her devotees to a Crusade of prayer, claiming a country for Mary. Secondly (if the Protestant population allows her to get away with it) to dedicate the country to Mary. This done, it only remains for her to urge her people to a holy warfare, to actually possess that which they have already claimed by dedication, and Protestants, who have by their silence consented to an act carried out in their name, are rudely awakened to the fact that they have unconsciously betrayed their country, their people, and their God.

### THE WAR DECLARED

On the 9th May, 1948, when Cardinals Spellman and Gilroy officiated at "The dedication of Australia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary," few people realized that, in fact, war had been declared on Australia; the enemy had actually planted the flag and taken possession. That the non-Roman section of the community regarded the whole ceremony either as a huge joke, or as a matter to be treated with scorn, does not in any way alter the fact that the price must be paid in blood, torture and tears—except there is a mighty awakening very soon.

There were some Christians, however, who met together in different places to pray, and to bewail the sins of their country, and to disassociate themselves from the blasphemous ceremony which was carried out in the name of Australia.

This is the type of prayer that was offered:

#### "THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY: AN ACT OF CONSECRATION"

"O Mary, Powerful Virgin and Mother of Merciful Kindness, Queen of Heaven and Refuge of Sinners, we consecrate ourselves to thy Immaculate Heart. We consecrate our beings and all our life and all we have and all we are, and all we love. Thine be our bodies, our hearts and our souls, Thine be our homes, our families and our native land. It is our desire that everything within us and around us should belong to thee and share in the benefits of thy Motherly blessings. And to make this Consecration truly efficacious and lasting, we renew at thy feet today, O Mary, the promises of our Baptism and our first Communion. **We pledge ourselves to make courageous and constant profession of the truths of our Faith: and to live Catholic lives in full submission to all the directions of the Pope and of the bishops in Communion with him.**" &c\*

#### UNDER PAPAL DIRECTION

Be it noted that the manner in which the devotees to Mary carry their consecration into effect, is by living "in

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\* Taken from a booklet "In Honour of the Immaculate Heart of Mary," Dublin, July 26th, 1943. Imprimatur, John Carol, Roman Catholic Archbishop, Dublin.

full submission to all directions of the Pope and all the Bishops in communion with him." And herein lies Australia's punishment. Rome boasts she never changes—those who study her history will agree that, although she may alter her doctrines, there is never a change of heart. The object of this book is to show Canadians just what this dedication involves.

In the recent war, Roman Catholic actionists in Europe, acting "under the directions of the Pope and the Bishops in communion with him" committed the most dastardly crimes.

In Australia, observant people can see the same sinister plans being laid, to provide an opportunity for the brutal slaughter of every Australian who refuses to submit to "the directions of the Pope and the Bishops in communion with him."

### THE WOLVES LET LOOSE

When Hitler's hordes swept over Yugoslavia the Government of that country declared on the side of the Allies, but a corner of Yugoslavia, in which there was a Roman Catholic majority (5 million Roman Catholics to 3 million Eastern Orthodox Serbs) deflected under Roman Catholic influence, and formed a puppet state calling it "The Independent State of Croatia"—then the mask fell off, and Roman Catholic Action came out into the open and took complete control.

The Quisling, Pavelich (a Romanist, as all other Quislings) took the reins of office and raised an army called the Ustashi, which was composed of Roman Catholic Actionists. This army was helped by other Roman Catholic armies, such as the Hungarians and the Bulgarians, who also acted in the interest of the Papacy. The objective of these armies was the forceful conversion to Romanism or annihilation of the Serbs, an ideal which would only appeal to Papists.

Government offices were taken over and a notice issued that only Roman Catholics could remain in the Government service. All arms were confiscated on the plea of safeguarding against a Communist uprising. In villages people were called to assemble for instructions, and knew nothing

of what was awaiting them. They were either shot down on the spot or taken to concentration camps to be tortured and starved. In desperation some fled to the hills and put up a brave defence under the leadership of General Draza Mihailovich. This brave General, in a pathetic plea to the Allies, to do something to stop the savage butchery of his countrymen by the Roman Catholic Actionists said:

**"Yugoslavia is drenched with Serb blood, and yet our Allies cannot or will not stop the flow of this blood and the mass murder of the Serbs. I do not believe it is in the interest of the Allies, that the Serbian people should cease to exist; I beg the Yugoslavia Minister to interest our Allies in the fact that the Serbs in Yugoslavia are being exterminated—could not something more be said in broadcasts about the slaughter of the Serbs? The number so far approaches one million."**

These words were written in a despatch sent by the General on 5th February, 1943. Why were we not told the facts over the air? Never a word was mentioned about the butchers who were led by priests and friars, who themselves assisted in the tortures and slaughters of poor Serbs? The explanation is, that the power of Rome, in America, Britain and the dominions, is such that, in spite of radio, telegraph and supposedly free Press, all these facts have been kept behind the scarlet curtain of Rome, which is every bit as soundproof as the iron curtain of Russia. We now know that 1,700,000 Serbs were slaughtered by the Roman Catholic Actionists between 1941-1945.

### **TRUSTWORTHY EVIDENCE**

Eventually a book was compiled from "documents and reports from trustworthy United Nations and eye witnesses and issued by the Serbian Eastern Orthodox Diocese for the United States of America and Canada" in an attempt to let the world know the tragedy which was being enacted in the so-called "Independent State of Croatia." The title of this book is "The Martyrdom of the Serbs." The Church of Rome



has done all in her power to keep this book and these facts from the people. It would be a pity for her future plans, to let the poor silly sheep, smell the blood in the slaughter yards of Croatia; or see the knife being sharpened by the "Catholic Action" butchers, preparing for "the big day" when they can jump into action here. We shall let the book speak for itself by quoting later directly from its pages.

In a book written by the Yugoslavia Ambassador in Washington, entitled "The Case of Archbishop Stepinac" abundant evidence is given of the guilt of the Archbishop and many of his clergy. Archbishop Stepinac has since been sentenced to 16 years' imprisonment for his guilt. The Pope raised the cry of persecution and excommunicated every Roman Catholic connected with his trial and condemnation (they were all Roman Catholics who conducted the trial). From this book we quote the following:

One great error of supporters of the Independent State of Croatia was an over-confident belief that it would endure at least as long as Hitler's thousand-year Reich. This confidence explains why they did not hesitate to see their plans and schemes exposed in print. Indeed, they boasted publicly, some of the priests, about the conspiracy and about their close connections with the Ustashi during the period when this organization was outlawed in pre-war Yugoslavia.

After the puppet state had been created they felt free to describe in jubilant articles how zealously members of the clergy had worked for Der Tag, how the monasteries had been used as clandestine headquarters for the illegal Ustashi movement, how they had been in constant contact with the plotters abroad, how they had organized the monks and the Catholic youth as "Crusaders" for the coming uprising, and how they had endangered in many different ways the very existence of pre-war Yugoslavia.

**Evidence found by the investigating commission gave a clear picture of the organizational structure of the conspiracy. The whole plot was directed by responsible members of the Roman hierarchy. Practical execution of the plan**

was channelled through "Catholic Action" and its various affiliated organizations such as the "Great Brotherhood of Crusaders," the academic society "Domagoj," the Catholic student association "Mahnich," the "Great Sisterhood of Crusaders," and many others.

The presidents and members of the directing bodies of these organizations were appointed by Archbishop Stepinac. They were in most cases well-known priests or secretly sworn members of the Ustashi. All these forces were mobilised for concerted action with the openly professed aim of spreading fascist ideology. **This propaganda persuaded the faithful that it would be a good deed, in the highest interests of Croatia and the Catholic Church, to kill or convert the Serbs and to exterminate the Jews. How boldly this propaganda was published in the responsible Catholic press will be shown. (Pages 16 and 17.)**

The boldness of the propaganda for the Nazis is illustrated in an article by priest Petar Pajic which appeared in the organ of the Archbishop of Sarajevo, Dr. Ivan Saric, "Katolicki Tjednik" (The Catholic Weekly), No. 35 of August 31, 1941. Entitled "Hitler Upholds the Missions," the article said:

"Until now, God spoke through papal encyclicals, numerous sermons, catechisms, the Christian press, through missions, through the heroic examples of the saints, and so on . . . And? They closed their ears. They were deaf. Now God has decided to use other methods. He will prepare missions. European missions! World missions! They will be upheld not by priests but by arm commanders led by Hitler. The sermons will be well heard with the help of cannons, machine guns, tanks and bombers.

"The language of these sermons will be international. No one will be able to complain that he did not understand it, because all people know very well what death is and what wounds are, disease, hunger, fear, slavery and poverty are." (Page 29.)

"The voice of the Crusader movement, 'Nedlja' compared the Ustashi with Christ. In its issue of June 6, 1941, an article entitled 'Christ and Croatia' reads:

**Christ and the Ustashi and Christ and the Croatians march together through history. From the first day of its existence the Ustashi movement has been fighting for the victory of Christ's principles, for the victory of justice, freedom and truth. Our Holy Saviour will help us in the future as he has done until now, that is why the new Ustashi Croatia will be Christ's, ours and no one else's"!** (Pages 40 and 41.)

Still further proof is found in the report of seven prominent Protestant clergymen who travelled from U.S.A. to Yugoslavia to investigate for themselves and report to their countrymen their findings. The seven investigators were:

- Dr. G. E. Shipler, editor of "The Churchman," an Episcopalian.
- Dr. E. S. Bucke, editor of "Zion's Herald," of Boston, a Methodist.
- Dr. G. W. Buckner, jr., editor of "World Call," of Indianapolis, Disciple of Christ.
- Dr. P. P. Elliott, of the First Presbyterian Church, of Brooklyn.
- Dr. S. Trexler, former President of the Lutheran Synod, New York.
- Rev. C. Williams, Director of the Institute of Applied Religion, Birmingham, Alabama.
- Rev. W. H. Melish, of the Church of the Holy Trinity, an Episcopalian.

In their report they say:

The American public has little understanding of why Stepanic was arrested and convicted due to lack of adequate information in the American Press.

The conviction of Stepinac was based on nearly a thousand photographs and documents submitted to the court and shown to the reporters present, as well as the testimony of many witnesses. In considering the Stepinac trial, it is essential to keep in mind that his trial and conviction were in fact the persecution of an individual charged with serious

collaboration with the enemy of his country; they had nothing to do with any persecution of his own church or religion.

Among the documents we examined were great numbers of official Roman Catholic newspapers and periodicals frankly telling the story from month to month of the Archbishop's collaboration with the Nazi forces. It seemed obvious that the reason for this candid recording of such collaboration was due to the conviction that Germany would win the war.

### **WHAT THE DOCUMENTS SHOWED**

The documents show that when the Italians and Germans swept into Yugoslavia, underground bands of previously organized Roman Catholic laymen, calling themselves "Crusaders," and aided by individual priests and militant monks, rose to receive the invaders. Two men responsible for the assassination of King Alexander at Marseilles in 1934 and since that time harboured by Mussolini in Italy for this very occasion, Ante Pavelich (convicted for his crime both in French and Yugoslavia courts) and Zlatko Kvaternik, were brought into the country to become the puppet President and the military commander of a quisling government to be called "The Independent State of Croatia." This move was greeted by the Roman Catholic diocesan press in Zagreb as the "establishment of a Catholic state on the corporative pattern advocated in the Papal Encyclicals"; it was praised without qualification as the church's bulwark against "atheistic materialism." The church leaders apparently were not restrained by the fact that a Yugoslav government was legally in existence and that remnants of its army were still fighting.

Pavelich and Kvaternik, with the help of their German, Italian and "Crusader" soldiers, proceeded to carry out the German-sponsored racial programme which advocated the solidifying of a Croatian community by eliminating such minorities as the Jews and Gypsies, reducing the number of Serbs living in Croatia, and compelling those remaining to turn Roman Catholic.

Nearly 70,000 of the 80,000 Jews in the entire country were killed or forced to flee, their property being confiscated. 240,000 Serbs became Byzantine Rite Roman Catholics through forced conversions, on pain of death.

Those who resisted were shot or stabbed and their bodies thrown into mass-graves which were subsequently found and opened. We saw hundreds of sworn depositions attesting to these crimes, made out by relatives or eye-witnesses, and also, in a few cases, by survivors. Serbian church properties were seized and turned over to Roman Catholic parishes and convents.

Documents requesting, and authorizing, such transfers are now in the State Prosecutor's offices at Zagreb and Sarajevo, bearing the personal signatures of Archbishop Stepinac of Zagreb and Archbishop Sharich of Sarajevo.

Roman Catholics who resisted or seriously denounced those activities were hounded, and the braver among them (including many priests such as Monsignor Ritig) fled to the mountains and joined the Partisan Movement. Such men are today honoured in the new Government and entrusted with responsible posts.

We talked with such Roman Catholic leaders, and they confirmed the truth of the historical facts. These things happened in the diocese of which Aloysius Stepinac was the metropolitan (in the Roman Catholic Church the supreme and responsible authority) and furthermore, he actually served as the Military Vicar of the Ustashi armed forces which perpetuated the worst excesses, though, according to certain Roman Catholic journals, he personally counselled moderation.

So confident were these Croat leaders that Hitler's "New Order" would survive, that they preserved the records of their own crimes. When the collapse finally came—it was relatively sudden in Croatia—these state documents were taken for safe keeping to Stepanic's palace in the Kaptol in Zagreb and he gave a personal receipt (which we saw) for their security.

A number of boxes of Ustashi loot, consisting of gold watches, rings, bracelets and even dentures torn from the mouths of victims, were found buried under the chancel of the Franciscan Monastery a block from Stepinac's cathedral.

If one reads the record of the trial, which members of our group have done, one will find that the Abbot of the Monastery admitted the facts but denied personal responsibility because he was acting on the orders of his superiors, whom he refused to name. Stepinac, in turn, claimed he was not responsible for the acts of his subordinates.

In the total struggle in Yugoslavia 1,700,000 men, women and children perished . . . copied from "Religion in Yugoslavia." (Pages 21-23.)

And now we quote from "The Martyrdom of the Serbs." (Any reference to "Catholic" naturally means "Roman Catholic.")

### **NOT VENGEANCE—BUT JUSTICE**

The publication of this book is inspired by the traditional custom of the Serbian Orthodox Church, which has from time immemorial protected the spiritual and the national interests of its people. The present cataclysm in Europe has effectively drowned the voice of the Serbian Church, with the exception of its branch in America and hence the Serbian Orthodox Diocese in America, in keeping with this tradition, is called upon to make its contribution towards safeguarding the just interests of the Serbian Orthodox Church and its people.

The reports on the existing conditions of the Serbs in Yugoslavia which we present here, with documents and papers from various reliable sources, are all authenticated and properly verified. They constitute but a part of the reports thus far received and which are being withheld from publication pending their proper verification.

Some of the reports herein released make references to the same atrocities—the deliberate and calculated progress of the invaders toward the destruction of human life and property. We have incorporated all these reports in this

publication in a desire to present more than a single witness to specific cruelties—hence perhaps the seeming repetitions.

There are several groups of witnesses collecting data, working inside Yugoslavia, whose reports are being carefully checked.

**Though the sources of information are reliable and the reports are comprehensive to a certain extent, it is still not possible to publish a full story of the unspeakable atrocities to which the ruthless invaders have resorted.**

The illustrations of massacres, nearing a million Serbs, in Yugoslavia, the destruction of life and property including churches, the converting of churches into slaughter houses . . . . The shooting of some church dignitaries and clergy and the internment, torture and murder of others, all give but a vague picture of this, the greatest of world tragedies.

Therefore this publication is far from being an adequate presentation of a record of the crimes and heartless conduct of the invaders and their satellites, all of whom have converged with all their sadistic and satanic fury to exterminate the Serbian people and forever obliterate their church. For obvious reasons neither all reports in our possession, though already authenticated and verified, nor all the names or sources could be published.

When the proper time comes, the indictment to be presented by the Serbian people against the Axis Powers and their satellites, who have set back the clock of civilization by many centuries, will profoundly shock the World. The full and complete story of their crimes will call for just and effective retribution in order to save humanity in the future.

Led by the Axis-inspired and paid Quislings, the Croats, who speak the same language as the Serbs, but who belong to the Roman Catholic faith, had carried for a long time petit political grudges against the past Yugoslav regimes, so that when the invaders set upon Yugoslavia from all sides, in their frenzy they swiftly broke loose, destroying the Yugoslav Army.

Within a few days from the time of the invaders' attack, the Croatians proclaimed their "Independent Croatian State" including many Serbian provinces inhabited by about 3,000,000 Serbs. In true satellite fashion the Croatians at once declared War against the United States of America and other United Nations and set out to exterminate the Serbian population from their territory. To accomplish this they have perpetuated crimes never before recorded in the history of mankind. The wild, bloody orgy of exterminating the Serbs from Croatia is still in full blast, as will be more fully noted from the reports herein presented.

### WHO ARE THE USTASHI ?

Certain circles claim that all these atrocities in Croatia are the work of a small number of Ustashi. This claim is not correct. It is true that Quisling Pavelich brought with him from Italy only about one hundred Ustashi. The others were organized in Croatia itself.

In the cities they consisted first of all of students of the Gymnasium and schools of higher learning, youths of good civic training; then men of the merchant and artisan classes, all good and peaceful former members of the "Hrvatski Junak" (Croat Hero). The leader of that organization was one Majer, people's representative of the Croatian Peasant Party for the city of Zagreb.

When the Croatian newspapers are read from the time of the origin of the Independent State of Croatia to the present day, we find there thousands of names of various Ustashi "functionaries" who have arisen from all classes of the people, beginning with peasants to the university professor. In the same way it can be authentically substantiated that in the entire Stokavaska territory of the Independent State of Croatia, representatives of all the classes of the people took part in the massacring and persecuting of Serbs.

Many former Yugoslavs, distinguished and well known public workers and artists, joined with the Ustashi. We shall mention only Mestrovic, creator of the Kossovo Mem-



orial, then Dr. Vinko Kriskovic, Croatian leader in science, then Dr. Milorad Straznicki, Yugoslav Minister to Stockholm, who automatically connected himself with the Ustashi Independent State of Croatia. One should only read the Croatian newspapers to see how many of those Croats had camouflaged themselves under the cloak of various Yugoslav activities.

### **THE BLOODY HANDS OF THE CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD IN CROATIA**

The Catholic priesthood in Croatia, Hercegovina, and Dalmatia carried out an intensive propaganda campaign for the Ustashi government. For years so-called Eucharistic congress were convoked, which were religious manifestations only superficially, but in fact were for extremist political purposes.

It was obvious that after the disaster a great portion of the Croatian youths in the intermediate and high schools participated most actively in the bloody terror perpetuated by the Ustashi against the Serbs. They were the so-called "Croatian Heros," members of an organization which was founded and led by the Catholic priesthood.

After the fall the Catholic priesthood was in closest collaboration with the Ustashi in the massacring of the Serbs, and it cannot be said that it was the doings of individuals limited in scope and time. On the contrary, by the number of priests in the towns where the atrocities were committed it may be plainly observed that those priests led that bloody orgy according to an earlier planned system, methodically and with precision.

### **JUST A FEW EXAMPLES**

LIVNO. Dr. Srecko Peric, a monk of Livno, former Catholic priest of Nis, preached from the altar that all the Serbs should be slaughtered—his sister first because she had married a Serb!!

After the slaughter he promised to absolve the murderers of their deeds, for murder is not a sin if carried out in the interest of the Catholic Church. And really, the District

of Livno suffered horribly. Several thousand Serbs, men women and children were tortured and murdered in the most cruel and beastly manner.

**OGULIN.** Ivan Mikan, priest and honorary canon of Ogulin, led the terror together with Jurica Markovic, district governor. In the gaol of the district court of Ogulin were hundreds of Serbs. The priest Mikan made daily rounds of the prison and mercilessly beat Serbs with a bull-whip, scolding the Ustashi for being lax in their work.

**BRCKO.** Fra Anto, priest of Tramosnjica, organized Ustashi bands in his village and marched with them through nearby Serbian villages, capturing Serbs wherever he could get them. He led them off to his village, locked them up in a shed and held them there for days without food or water, torturing them bestially himself with the help of his Ustashi.

**KNIN.** Simic Vjekoslav, a monk in the monastery on the Knin plain, personally slaughtered numerous Serbs.

**NASICE.** Sidonije Solc, a monk of the Franciscan monastery in Nasice was engaged in a terror of forceful conversion of the Orthodox Serbs to Catholicism. Whole Serbian villages were deported at his command just because they did not wish to change their religious faith.

**KOSTAJNICA.** The abbot of the Catholic monastery stood on the town bridge while the Ustashi were butchering the Serbs and throwing them into the Una river, inciting them to kill all of the Serbs.

**SLAVONSKI BROD.** The Catholic priests Guncevic and Marjanovich Dragutin, acted as police officials and ordered the arrest of local Serbs who were tortured and killed. Personally assisted in the executions of these unfortunate Serbs.

**GLINA.** German Castimir, abbot of the monastery in Guntic directed the mass murder of the Serbs in this town. It was at his instance that for several nights Serbs were slaughtered in the Orthodox Church of Glina.

The number of Catholic priests who participated in this brutal extermination of Serbs cannot be even approximated

at this time, but their number is large. There are some, however, that should be mentioned. Eugen Pujic, Catholic priest of Hercegovina, personally cut the throat of an Orthodox minister, his colleague in the village, with a large knife.

(Here followed a long list of names of priests and monks who participated in these crimes.)

All of these, along with many others, distinguished themselves by their encouraging and inciting the massacring and persecution of Serbs and their forcible conversion to Catholicism. In such a way they succeeded in killing 135 Serbian Orthodox ministers, of whom 85 were of the Gornji-Carlovac Diocese, not to mention the other victims.

It was on their initiative that nearly all of the Serbian churches in Croatia were desecrated, looted and razed. It is obvious that the Croatian Catholic priesthood, as representatives of the "ecclesia militans," adopting Machiavellian principles, carried out their duty, longed for and awaited, with great zeal.

Archbishop Stepinac of Zagreb and the other bishops of Croatia signified their approval of this unchristian and wild orgy of blood, for at no time did they raise their voices of objection to such conduct of their clergy, nor did they by any act or move attempt to exhibit their displeasure, at least, of these crimes. Their ominous silence is but proof of their condonation.

### **THE CATHOLICISING OF SERBIAN ORTHODOX PEOPLE**

With the first wave of terror the Ustashi and the authorities began to force the Serbs to accept the Catholic faith. In this the Catholic priests especially distinguished themselves on all sides. The terrorized Serbs gave in here and there in the belief that in that way they would save their lives. But there was no thought of this. The only aim was to humble the Serbian people.

It was for this reason that public parades were held on the occasion of conversions. The people were forced to display a certain joy over their "Return to the faith of their

fathers." There were arranged delegations as a sign of gratitude and loyalty to Quisling Pavelich in Zagreb. Pavelich kissed one of the leaders of such a delegation.

Meanwhile, subsequent events showed a truer picture of that infamy. It was of no benefit to any village whose inhabitants became converted, for soon after there was no distinction made between those who were converted and those who were not, when mass murders began. Sarcastic remarks of Ustashi were heard at that time such as "the wolf changes his skin, but never his nature."

### **MASSACRE OF THE SERBS IN USTASHI CROATIA, FROM APRIL, 1941 TO APRIL, 1942**

The persecution and massacre of the Serbs in Pavelich Croatia were inaugurated simultaneously with the invasion of Yugoslavia by Germans between April 11th and 15th of 1941. Immediately upon assuming control over a certain place, the Ustashi began most terrifying persecutions of the Serbs. The sufferings to which the people were subjected by the Ustashi during the first year since the invasion are incomparable to anything in the history of savage people.

When once the statistics of the massacred Serbs are compiled and the manner in which they were annihilated known, the civilized world will be thrown into consternation and will be unable to believe that such bestialities in the middle of Europe and under the supervision of Germany could have taken place.

**Everything they have done was in accordance with pre-designed plans directed by Pavelich from Zagreb. Their first step was to confiscate from the Serbs, radios, automobiles, telephones and typewriters, then the arrest of Serbs followed.**

As early as April 12, 1941, the newspapers of Zagreb carried announcements to all Serbian residents of Zagreb that they must vacate the city within 12 hours and anyone found harbouring a Serb would be executed. Therefore, the Serbs and the Jews were compelled to have their families leave their homes and move to the outskirts of the city.

Later they were rounded up and taken to concentration camps or executed. Only a few of them however, escaped to Serbia. One of the first victims subjected to inhuman treatment by the Ustashi was the Serbian Metropolitan of Zagreb, Bishop Dositey.

Wholesale arrests were conducted in all the larger cities.

### **ESCAPE IN BEWILDERMENT**

The panic stricken Serbs of Sarajevo began to escape in large numbers to Serbia. The German occupation authorities were issuing travel permits without any attempts to prevent their escape. The German authorities neither protected nor persecuted the Serbs in Croatia, but passively viewed the terror spread by the Ustashi.

The first mass executions were conducted by the Ustashi during the night between May 31st and June 1st, 1941.

On that fateful night Ustashi groups, sent for the specific purpose from Zagreb headquarters under the leadership of local Ustashi and chiefs of police, invaded the homes of the most prominent people in Dubrovnik, Trefinje, Mostar, Livno, Glina, Gospic, Banja Luka, Metkovic and other places and from each place they arrested from 8 to 10 of the most prominent Serbs and took them to the outskirts of the towns and cities and without any procedure whatever, executed them and threw their bodies into nearby rivers and creeks or into the natural deep pits. Not a single body was buried in the ground.

It is only natural that the Serbs never expected to be murdered without accusation or court trial and in each instance they were absolutely innocent. The people became panic stricken and it seemed this was what the Ustashi were waiting for. It is now positively known that the orders for these massacres were emanating from the chief Ustashi headquarters in Zagreb, that they were being issued personally by Quisling Pavelich and sometimes at the special instance and request of the Croatian leaders Artukovich, Budak, and others.

These first mass murders were intended to liquidate at one stroke the Serbian populace in those places and districts where they were in majority or too numerous. At the beginning the populace of the villages and the countryside was not molested. It is to be regretted that the Serbs failed to grasp the full importance of the danger with which they were so suddenly confronted, and hoping that the Ustashi would be satiated with the first mass murders, did not make any comprehensive efforts to escape.

However, only 24 days after the first pogrom on June 24, 1941, murder enmasse was begun. It was just a few days before the traditional Serbian holiday Vidov-Dan and the Ustashi made open remarks that the Serbs would long remember the forthcoming Vidov-Dan.

We are now approaching the full perfidy of the Ustashi: a decree by Chief of State, Quisling Pavelich, was published in the Official Gazette, June 22, 1941, and the same was announced over the radio as well as from the pulpits of the Catholic churches, that anyone found guilty of committing any crime against any person who might be a citizen of the Croatian state would be most severely punished.

Simultaneously the Ustashi organization all over Croatia were receiving, from the Pavelich headquarters, coded instructions to proceed relentlessly with mass executions and extermination of the Serbs during the next few days including Vidov-Dan, June 28th. This will explain why some of the parts suffered more than others.

During this crucial, fateful period between June 24th to June 28th there were murdered in Bosnia, Hercegovina, Dalmatia, Lika, Croatia and Srem, more than 100,000 wholly innocent Serbs. At this time the crimes were not perpetuated during the night time only, but also in broad daylight.

Like wild animals the Serbs were being rounded up everywhere, on the streets, in their homes and offices and from the fields and countryside. They were taken in trucks to the outskirts of the towns and cities and executed enmasse. A great many of these unfortunate victims passed

through most terrifying tortures and met death with a sigh of relief.

**At Livno, a prominent physician, Dr. Dushan Mitrovich, Director of the State Hospital, who was known as a lifelong promoter of Serbo-Croatian friendship, and a civic leader for more than 20 years in this community, was taken with his wife and two children to the outskirts of the city where in the presence of the parents, the children were slain first, followed by the mother who fell from the blow of an axe and finally the doctor himself was murdered.**

Of the 2,000 Serbian inhabitants of Livno more than 1,900 were executed, only a few old men and women, and some children remain alive.

At Ljubuski, not a single Serb was spared, all having been executed. Among the victims of this town was a prominent civic leader, Dr. Alexander Lukac, the municipal physician.

After the Vidov-Dan massacre relative quietness prevailed for about a month. Old Serbian organizations having been destroyed, churches, institutions and libraries burned, and the intellectual class of people massacred and disposed of, the Serbian peasantry was left without any leadership. The church records were destroyed so that there are no legal documents in the hands of the churches in existence. Children cannot be baptized, or marriages performed and burials must be made without religious ceremonies as there are no clergy left alive.

The Roman Catholic clergy intensified their efforts to convert the remaining Serbian populace to Catholicism promising the people that by such conversion they could save their lives. Thus, they succeeded in converting about 30% of the remaining populace to Catholicism, but to many even this conversion was of no avail, for later on in the next wave of Ustashi terror they were killed off nevertheless.

About July 20, 1941, pogroms and mass executions were resumed. The Ustashi resolved to exterminate the remaining Serbian populace, not only men but also women and

children in all parts of the Independent Croatian State. It was then that they commenced the removal of the remaining Serbian people into concentration camps.

In the spring of 1942 the action against the Serbs was again intensified especially along the River Sava, the bloodiest onslaught of all occurring in the city of Brcko, where they executed all remaining Serbs including those converted to Catholicism.

One of the most blood-thirsty executioners of Serbs was one, Sudar of Lika, who years ago had attempted to organize a revolt against Yugoslavia. He set out to avenge his prior venture that had failed and publicly declared in Nevesinje, that of all Ustashi he had killed personally the greatest number of Serbs by his own hand.

● Eyewitnesses have submitted sworn testimony that they had seen him grab babies from their mothers' arms and holding the babies by their feet swing them forcibly against a wall smashing their heads in the presence of their mothers.

● He also led the group of murderers who were cutting off the breasts of women as well as gouging eyes from living men.

● With pride he bragged that he had shipped gouged Serbian eyes to the Ustashi headquarters in Zagreb, to prove his bloody activity, because compensation rewards and leaves depended upon the number of murders committed.

One Zorko, also known as Dan, of Siroki Breg near Mostar, killed with his own hand 90 most prominent Serbs. Later the Italian authorities placed him under arrest and convicted him for unlawful possession of firearms. In his possession 8 gold watches were found, apparently stolen from his victims.

**He was sentenced to death and the entire Roman Catholic clergy, together with Bishop Mislc, intervened in his behalf and pleaded with the Italian commander to spare the life of this common criminal.**

How great in some instances was the number of victims



may be evidenced by the following fact: Since there was no time to dig graves for the executed victims, the common procedure of throwing the bodies into pits and rivers was adopted.

During the month of July 1941, there was such a vast number of corpses in the River Neretva, about 15,000 or more, that the boats had difficulty going through the en-massed bodies. Because of the frightful scenes thus encountered the boat captains refused to ply their boats on this river. The corpses later were carried to the sea as far as the islands of Hvar and Korchula.

An example of the unprecedented brutality in the history of civilization is recorded by the sworn testimony of several witnesses regarding the following happening: At Nevesinje the Ustashi arrested one whole Serbian family consisting of father, mother and four children. The mother and children were separated from the father.

Fully seven days they were tortured by starvation and thirst, then they brought the mother and children a good sized roast and plenty of water to drink. These unfortunates were so hungry they ate the entire roast and then the Ustashi told them that they had eaten the flesh of father and husband.

### **FURTHER REPORT OF ATROCITIES**

#### **Testimony of a Trustworthy Eyewitness**

In January, 1942, the massacres were resumed again in the district of Dvor, which was spared from the first massacre, also around Nova Gradiska, which until then had remained almost intact.

● The Serbs in the entire Independent Croatia were unmercifully dealt with and persecuted.

● Lazo Durman was lanced by a spear and unborn babies were torn from the wombs of pregnant mothers, which happened to Mileva Nozevich from Sabandza.

● The chests of innocent people were burned and boiling water spilled over them.

a few stories read from it made a very strong impression on her young mind. The death of her mother when she was seven years old, left little Monica an orphan as her father had died six months before she was born.

In the great upheaval which followed her mother's death, the home furniture including the Bible went under the auctioneer's hammer.

Some years after, Monica becoming alarmed at the thought that all Protestants would go to hell because they did not belong to the "One True Church," asked her sister to send her to a school where she knew she would contact Protestants.

With a view to converting all the Protestants in the school to the "One True Church," Monica set off to school and her first battle was with a Scotch Presbyterian girl named Marjory.

It was very largely due to the influence of this girl's arguments that Monica had her eyes opened to the Paganism of the Roman system. After about a year of disbelief following the shock of disillusionment she was determined to find God and the way to Heaven, and Marjory's constant appeal to the Bible as the Word of God led her to seek the Saviour where He has promised to be found. "Search the scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me" John 5: 39.

A better account of her experiences is to be found in the booklet entitled "From Rome to Christ."

● Small boys were put on a hot fire, their eyes gouged out; ears cut off; nails hammered into their heads; and arms and legs amputated.

● Beards of clergy were pulled off together with the skin; men were dragged along the road tied to trucks; arms and legs were broken.

● People were slaughtered like animals; machine guns were fired on them; some were buried alive; while others were cast into deep pits and bombs thrown on them.

● In houses and churches innocent people were burned.

● Children's limbs were torn from them; their heads were pounded against walls; they were thrown into fire, into boiling vats and into lime; their ears were boxed, and their heads smashed.

● Hundreds of persons were killed on the church altar and thousands slain in the church of Glina.

● Women, girls and minors were brutally attacked, being taken to the camps of the Ustashi to serve as prostitutes after which they were killed; mothers were raped in the presence of their daughters; daughters in the presence of their mothers, and rape took place even in the churches.

● A son was forced to rape his own mother (in the case of Olga Kepliya from Gliniytog Kuta).

About 100,000 Serbs in Bachka were killed by the Hungarians but without being subjected to prolonged tortures. Now again on January 21, 1942, thousands were killed in Novi Sad, Churug, Zabalj, Gospodjinci, Titel, Stari Bechey.

● Some Italians took photographs of certain Ustashi who were wearing around their waists garlands of human tongues and eyes gouged from the unfortunate Serbs.

● The Italians also took photographs of the Pavelich Ustashi holding a large dish containing several pounds of human eyes gouged from the tortured and murdered Serbian people.

Never before in history or during this war has such brutality and cruelty been inflicted upon the Serbs or any people anywhere.

During this incredible massacre in homes and public buildings, a great many Serbs and Jews were taken for execution at the city cemetery, or on the beach of the Danube.

In groups of four, the victims were stripped naked and murdered. Some of them were pushed alive into the icy water, through especially dug holes on the frozen Danube.

The scenes were horrifying.

It was bitter cold weather and the children five to fifteen years of age hesitated to disrobe but the Hungarians tore off their clothes and jabbed their bodies with bayonets.

Thereupon they would grab the innocent victims by one hand and with the butts of their revolvers would smash in their heads.

There were instances where mothers, though naked and with hands tied, would throw themselves upon their children in a last effort to protect them with their own bodies.

### THE WAVE OF BLOODY TERROR

From the first part of May (1941) a bloody terror was intensified with fearful speed over the entire jurisdiction of the Independent State of Croatia.

The first to receive the blow was Banija, the most solid Serbian district of Croatia. Its people were nationally conscious, for they had withstood throughout the centuries all the pressure of the Austrian methods of assimilation, and had affirmed their Serbian political consciousness by furnishing during the war thousands upon thousands of volunteers. They were the first to be led to the slaughter-house.

GLINA. Of the endless number of Serbian settlements in Croatia, Glina was the first to suffer the fearful bestiality of the Ustashi. One night towards the first part of May (1941) the Ustashi besieged Glina.

The Ustashi from Karlovci, Sisak and Petrinja gathered all males over 15 years of age, drove them in trucks outside the town and killed them all with guns, knives and sledge hammers. Over 600 fell there.

The days which followed held death for the Serbs of

the entire district. The centre of the massacre was in the village of Bosanski Grabovac.

The Ustashi would enter the Serbian villages commanding the Serbian peasants to assemble, under some harmless pretence, that some decrees would be made known to them or something similar. The people frightened and unarmed, not suspecting any evil, would flock from all sides to the execution place. The bloody tragedy would continue for several days.

According to authentic statistics it is computed that about 120,000 Serbs were thus killed there. In a few days Glina was again the centre of the massacres, where by force or some pretext the Ustashi gathered together several thousand Serbs. The gaols and school buildings were overflowing. Every night some 500 - 600 Serbs were led off to the Serbian Church. In the choir loft were the official representatives of the civil Ustashi authorities.

In the Church auditorium the Ustashi executioners would swing into action. Some ten or twenty of them would work with flash lights in one hand and knives in the other. Several nights the butchery lasted with unabated fury according to the horrible testimony of one of the executioners, Hilmija Berberovich, who was found later in Belgrade and who gave sworn testimony. That bloody orgy lasted for months. Not a village was left unscathed.

After the massacres looting and burning of entire villages would follow. Not a Serbian Church has been left. No one was given any mercy, not even the women and children. The incident which took place in the village of Susnjari is without precedent in history.

After the Ustashi had killed nearly all that lived in the village, they led out some twenty children of about ten years of age and tied them to the threshold of a big barn facing outward. They set the barn on fire. The flames licked their prey voraciously and the wretched children were enveloped in fire.

In the morning those unfortunate innocents lay in the ruins, their bodies horribly burned and thus half dead, still they were tortured for hours by the Ustashi who jabbed them with knives until death rescued them from their indescribable tortures. On hearing of these atrocities the remainder of the Serbs fled to Petrova Gora (Peter's Mountain) to save their naked lives.

VRGIN MOST. At the same time or somewhat later there began a bloody baiting of all Serbs in this district in accordance to the same system. In Vrgin Most some 3,000 Serbs were massacred on August 3, 1941. They had gathered there from all the villages about in order to be converted to Roman Catholicism. The authorities had called them together under a pretense.

That same day the Ustashi rounded up all the Serbs from Topusko and vicinity, several thousand of them, and during several nights butchered all of them in the Church, just as in Glina. And thus it continued, the butchering of Serbs, both men and women, in the villages, in the fields, on the roadsides, wherever they could be found and captured. A small part of them succeeded in saving themselves by fleeing to Petrova Gora. The villages were looted and then razed.

VOJNIC. On July 29, 1941, there arrived in this district, Bozidar Gerovski, chief of the Ustashi police in Zagreb, who with a strong unit of Ustashi police rounded up some 3,000 Serbs from Krnjak, Krstinje, Siroka Reka, Slunj, Rakovica and other villages which were within reach.

All were killed in Pavkovich, near a village mill, but by a strange twist of fate there was one survivor who gave a horrible testimony to the atrocities which preceded the butchery. Thereafter the massacre of the inhabitants in all villages followed.

DVOR NA UNI. From July 30, 1941, the units of the Ustashi traversed this district from village to village and systematically killed off all the Serbs on whom they could lay their hands, looting the homes and burning everything in sight. Those who were not killed escaped into the forests.



**The son of the Serbian martyr, Teslich, massacred by  
the Ustashi**

**KOSTAJNICA.** The bloody orgy had already begun on the 20th of April, 1941, in the village of Svinjica. The Ustashi arrested a minister, Babic, tortured him and buried him in an upright position to his waist in the ground. A martyr's death saved him from unheard of tortures, but not until several hours later.

By the same methods the orgy of madness of the Ustashi laid waste the entire village, slaughtering all those living who were Serbs. Some food which had been saved by the peasants was confiscated from the houses and carried away to Stara Gradiska.

There the women and children were left, but the men were taken to Zemun where those able to work were shipped off to Germany, while the rest were simply executed. Children were separated from their mothers and sent to a concentration place near Zagreb, obviously to be made over into a new sort of Jannicharies.

**PETRINJA.** In the district of Petrinja the massacre of the Serbs was executed by the local Ustashi without any outside assistance. By the same usual methods the people were gathered, from nearby villages and executed, thus forming graveyard after graveyard.

Those who did not save themselves by fleeing into the forests were liquidated or shipped off to concentration camps on the pattern of the district of Kostajnica.

**KORDUN, SLUNJ, OGULIN, VRBOVSKO.** The martyr's death of the minister Branko Dobrosavjevich from Veljun began a long list of bloody sacrifices. The Ustashi, who had come from Bosnia, Ogulin and the local men from Centinj Grad first killed the son of the minister, Dobrosavljevich, in his presence.

The wretched father then had to read the obituary for his own son, after which the Ustashi tortured him horribly and finally killed him also. Thereafter mass executions of the Serbs in several places were begun, in the Serbian churches in Kladusa, in Veljun, Slusnica, Primislje and other places. Looting, burning and violent destruction followed.



**SISAK.** Here in the most bestial manner was killed the manufacturer Milos Teslich, who was literally cut to pieces. The Ustashi gloated over his body even photographing themselves with their dead victim.

**GRACAC.** Documentary evidence of one of the most cruel of all crimes was found in this town. Besides the mass executions of the Serbs, there, as in other parts, the Ustashi committed unheard of crimes. Thus a physician, Dr. Torbica, was cut to pieces while still alive. The Ustashi poured salt into his wounds pretending that they were performing an "operation."

**In their Ustashi headquarters they held hundreds of Serbs, women and children in prison, torturing them fearfully. They gave the women some food which made them suspicious. At first they were given cooked entrails, but later they were offered cooked meat and by the bones they could tell that they were eating the flesh of their own children.**

After being tortured, both the living and the dead were thrown into a pit known as "Tucica." After a few days some Italian soldiers rescued one of the victims still living from this pit. He was lying there tied to a heap of corpses. Because of his great pain, he had chewed up his sleeves while both his arms and legs were broken. It is a singular wonder how he kept alive and was saved.

**BOSANSKA KRAJINA.** A long series of fearful crimes forms a prelude to the cruel murder of Bishop Platon and Protas (Arch-priest) Subitich. After bestial tortures such as the pulling of beards and the building of fires on their chests, they were murdered and thrown into the Vrbas river which later on washed up their mutilated corpses.

**In Banja Luka the "Stozernik" (Ustashi official) Dr. Victor Gutic, harassed the townfolks fearfully. He has certainly distinguished himself as being one of the most blood-thirsty of all Ustashi, second to none but Eugen Kvaternik. Publicly at gatherings he would order the butchering of Serbs and would post rewards for all Serbian decapitated heads brought in.**

Mass murders, deportations to camps, plunder, arson, extortion, rape and all possible crimes and atrocities mark the activities of Gutic in Banja Luka and in all Bosanka Krajina.

There is one example of extraordinary savagery in Kladanj. There, over a hundred Serbs were interned by the Ustashi in a small gaol. Because of the heat, men dropped unconscious. They were there several days without food or water. What followed in the way of human misery, cruelty and bestiality cannot be described in this report publicly.

In Tuzla the Ustashi drove nails into a huge barrel, threw certain Serbian prisoners into it and rolled it around while blood gushed out in streams.

### DEPORTATIONS

On the nights of July 4-5, 1941, Ustashi patrols made the rounds of the Serbian homes in Zagreb. It was decreed that all families had to prepare to leave within a period of ten minutes. It was especially emphasized that they take along their money and precious articles of value. Those families were transported by trucks to Zagreb Town Hall. There all of their precious articles and money were taken away from them with the exception of 500 dinars per person.

In the course of the first night there were about 200 families thus rounded up. Their houses were padlocked but only after being looted by the Ustashi. Only the bare wooden walls remained. All of the loot was later sold at auction and the proceeds pocketed by the Ustashi. The first party to be deported had the fortune of being taken directly by train across Bosnia and transported to Serbia. The following night a new party was rounded up from the houses and so it went until all of Zagreb was purged of Serbs. Only now it went much harder with the deportees. Instead of being sent directly to Serbia, some of the parties were sent to a concentration camp in Caprag. There they usually waited two or three weeks for trucks to carry them to Serbia.

Their treatment was exceedingly cruel—aimless forced labor, bad food, and bad sleeping quarters, though fortunately there were no killings. In that camp which operated until late in 1942, Serbs, especially clergy, were brought from many parts of the Independent Croatian State. From the remaining parts of the Independent State of Croatia the deportees were gathered together in the concentration camp of Slav. Pozega. There were abandoned army sheds there which served their purpose to good advantage. Their treatment was much more brutal—forced labor, worse food, and maltreatment every day.

In one night all of the deportees, 490 of them, from Dobož, were executed in the nearby woods. That action represents the acme of sadism and resulted in fearful looting. It should be known that before April 6, 1941, there were in Zagreb about 15,000 Serbs. Of these, 1,000 were independent merchants and the remainder public and private employees, and professional men, representing the middle class. These forced deportations caused property, both real and personal, vast estates and valuables to fall into the hands of the Ustashi. In these were included stores valued at more than ten million dollars.

If all could be computed the grand total value would be fabulous, counting the City of Zagreb only. But there were many other cities, towns and villages similarly looted, robbed and pillaged. As far as cash money is concerned not much was gained. For the greater part, Serbian property was kept by the plunderers, but much of it was sold for a trifle, and the rest presented as gifts to certain Ustashi who had distinguished themselves. A great portion of the loot was swallowed up by specially appointed Receivers (Commissioners) who took charge for liquidation purposes, of enterprises belonging to the Serbs.

### THE CAMPS

JASENOVAC. This was one of the most horrible places of tortures and executions. In Jasenovac arrived the remainder from the camps of Gospic and Koprivnica, while daily newer and newer groups arrived from all parts of the

country. At first the camps were established in three different places. One of them was in Jasenovac itself, in the brick factory of Ozren Bacich, the second was to the left of the highway leading to Novska, and the third was in the village of Krapje, five kilometers away.

The commander of all of these camps was an Ustashi officer, Lubaric, and the commander of the camp at Jasenovac was one Ljubo Milos, an Ustashi lieutenant, a native of Hercegovina. The Ustashi, Croats and Moslems, were from Hercegovina, though some came from the vicinity of Osijek.

**That which was seen and endured there by those rare fortunates who succeeded in saving themselves goes beyond any fantasy or imagination.**

The prisoners worked at horribly strenuous tasks at the hydro-electric plants, working at top speed beyond their strength from early dawn to late in the night. The food consisted of a boiled potato from time to time or water gruel. Beatings, clubbings and tortures continued while death haunted every step.

● The Ustashi killed off the Serbs both in groups and individually day and night, using all possible means of murder and torture.

● Machine guns, rifles, revolvers, knives, axes, hammers, all were used to destroy Serbian lives.

● In order to save on ammunition the Ustashi would drag certain groups of Serbs to the fiery furnaces of the brick factory.

● There they would stun each man, one by one, with a hammer, and throw him alive into the roaring furnace. The first of the group would be shoved into the furnace from behind by his fellow sufferers, so that they could be thrown in instantly, and thus quickly meet their end.

Others again were butchered along the beaches of the Sava river and thrown into the water. The most cruel and the most bloodthirsty of them was one Ljubo Milos. He himself has killed at least three thousand Serbs. He slaught-

# "RAVENING WOLVES"

Written and compiled by

**MONICA FARRELL**

**Light and Truth Gospel Crusade**

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"Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheeps' clothing but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits."

Matt. 7: 15, 16.

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Although conscious of the fact that there are many sincere and loveable people who are Roman Catholics by accident of birth, it is, nevertheless, true that Romanism as a system has always been relentlessly cruel and that torture and murder have ever been weapons used, not only against heretics, but also against her own adherents, should they show any sign of lapsing.

It is only when conditions prevailing in a country, through the alertness of Protestants, prevent Rome from carrying out her designs that her methods, for the time being, are changed and she seeks to rule by apparently gentle persuasion. The old proverb says, "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance." Rome may in adversity act like a lamb, in equality like a fox, in supremacy, she will still act as a tiger.

Her present technique is, first of all, to call her devotees to a Crusade of prayer, claiming a country for Mary. Secondly (if the Protestant population allows her to get away with it) to dedicate the country to Mary. This done, it only remains for her to urge her people to a holy warfare, to actually possess that which they have already claimed by dedication, and Protestants, who have by their silence consented to an act carried out in their name, are rudely awakened to the fact that they have unconsciously betrayed their country, their people, and their God.

ered his victims with a knife and later licked their blood, jesting and crying out: "How sweet is the Serbian blood."

At the arrival of the various groups this Milos would ask each person about his occupation. As soon as he ascertained that one was an intellectual or a city dweller he would immediately murder him on the spot. Usually the majority of the new prisoners would be killed at once on coming to the camp. There was a gang of grave diggers formed from tramps who spent the whole day only in collecting corpses and burying them naked, for they would strip them of their clothes and store them in a warehouse.

With Autumn came the cold and the floods. Since the area was beneath water level, the people were forced to sleep right in the water. Now they suffered even more because of the cold. New batches of prisoners arrived in unrelentless tempo. One group from Pakrac came on the Catholic Christmas Eve, about 100 of them, who had been beaten and tortured before their arrival here. At that time a certain Ustashi "begged" Milos to "give" him a Serb for a Christmas present. Milos allowed him with great magnanimity to take his pick.

To the lot of that Ustashi, whose name was Matkovich, fell a certain Joca Divjak, the owner of a restaurant in Lipik. Matkovich recalled that Divjak once, when his restaurant was crowded, could not offer him a seat. Therefore, Joca Divjak was chosen by Matkovich to be the bloody sacrifice.

At midnight, two of the Ustashi felled the unfortunate victim to the ground. One sat on his head, tore open his coat and shirt and began slowly to pare him with a knife in the chest. After half an hour Matkovich tore the living heart out of Divjak.

The others were forced to watch all this and even laugh while the wretched Divjak endured such indescribable tortures. He who turned away his head from this horrible scene was immediately killed on the spot.

There was another horrible means of torture called "Zica" (wire). It dealt with the barbed wire fenced area

of some ten square meters. At a height of a little more than a meter the wires were thickly woven on top like a bird cage. Beneath, water was ankle deep. Therein were placed those who had committed some breach of discipline.

For whole nights those wretches had to squat in the water in that horrible cold while by day they were forced to work. Dr. Oton Gravancich, Sokol leader from Zagreb, endured about nine nights of this torture and finally died from exhaustion. Many others shared his fate, especially Serbian army officers, who had been released from captivity by Germans to return to Croatia.

The news of these bestial acts was heard abroad. In the month of February, 1942, the rumor was spread that a certain international committee would come to Jasenovac. The authorities of this camp began to get busy to "clean up" the camp. There were a sort of barracks there which served as a hospital, though without any doctors or medical equipment for patients whatsoever. All of the patients were killed.

There was a new dispensary built according to regulations with all equipment and clean beds. Other barracks were fitted out as a mess hall supplied with all the requirements. The remaining barracks were put into order in such a way that the camp assumed an exterior likeness of some home.

The inmates received some imaginary numbers and orderly clothes, as well as better food, for the sake of appearance, before the commission which was expected to arrive. In addition they placed beds in the infirmary and put in them healthy men to play the part of recuperating patients. The commission finally came and went satisfied with conditions. After that everything reverted immediately to the same old order.

There is no way to ascertain exact figures of the atrocities for not one of the survivors could obtain a full view of the acts and the number of men who came there, never to leave again. It is estimated by conservative calculations that nearly 40,000 Serbs found their death in Jasenovac.

## THE MEMORANDUM OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Presented to General Dankelman, Commander in Chief  
of the Armed Forces in Serbia, in August, 1941

### A.

Excellency :

The distressing news which we are daily receiving of the atrocities committed upon the unprotected Serbian population in the Croatian State in general, and especially in the Serbian provinces: Lika, Srem, Bosnia and Hercegovina, compels us to call these crimes to the attention of your Excellency, as the representative of the German Army in occupied Serbia, as a representative of the German people, and as a human being . . .

From the very beginning of the creation of the Croatian State the persecution of the Serbian people, tortures, murders and robberies have been recorded, though somewhat to a lesser degree, while the German troops were stationed in different parts of Croatia, and while the Commanders of German garrisons, as soldiers and as human beings, were attempting to hold off and subdue the animal instincts of the Croatian rulers and their accomplices. Even in spite of this there were perpetrated a number of crimes, the nature of which is the reflection of an absolutely merciless and sadistic temperament.

People were murdered in the most ruthless manner after extremely cruel tortures, such as the gouging out of their eyes, the cutting off of their ears, noses, and sex organs, or crucifying them on the door frames of their homes and torturing them by all kinds of unspeakable methods which could have been invented only through insanity or savagery.

The Croatian Ministers: Dr. Mile Budak, Dr. Milovan Zanich, Dr. Mirko Puk and Dr. Victor Gutich, were in reality trying to outdo each other in inciting their fellow Croats against the Serbs and in awakening in the Croatian sadists their animal instincts.

These ministers have publicly declared that they would cause the murder of one-third of the Serbian population, that



one-third of it they would expel from Croatia, and the remaining third they would convert to Catholicism, and in this manner liquidate over two million Serbs in the Croatian State.

These declarations of the above Croatian Ministers were carried out in deeds and the Serbs were forced into concentration camps enmasse. Some of them were expelled from the territory of the Croatian State and ruthless murders of Serbian men, women and children were begun.

The Serbian clergy and their families were forcibly carried away from their homes and exterminated; the Serbian churches and monasteries were razed and burned; the records kept by church institutions were confiscated and delivered to Catholic priests; the Serbs were coerced to abandon their Orthodox faith and to embrace Catholicism. In all these crimes, it is to be regretted, the Catholic priesthood participated also.

#### Excellency:

The Serbian people, who have for centuries defended the honor of their name and endured the most terrific tortures, or have died for their holy faith, could not have remained passive in view of these atrocities, but were compelled, though totally unarmed, to rise in defence not only of their own lives, but also of the lives of their dearest ones, as well as in defence of their faith and their property.

This justified and necessary defence on the part of the Serbian people, which has spread in Hercegovina, Bosnia and Lika, the Croatian rulers now proclaim to be a Communistic movement and they desire by such a lie to justify before the civilized world their inhuman atrocities, and especially before the German people, who have begun to register their disapproval of such conduct and crimes.

The Serbian people are deeply religious and nationally conscious and have proven both their religious feelings and national-mindedness in century long struggles up to this day. The Serbian people are, in great majority (90%), agriculturists with patriarchal traits, and therefore never have

had and have not now anything in common with Communism or the ideas of the industrial proletariat.

It is therefore a most deliberate misstatement to characterize this defence by the Serbian people against the atrocious attacks of the Ustashi as a Communistic movement among Serbs.

### TORTURES

In addition to the tortures to which all of the Serbs were subjected, because cases are rare where murders were committed without preceding tortures and mistreatments, ruthless beatings, dismemberment of parts of the body, the gouging of eyes, or the breaking of arms and limbs and the like, we will refer to a few characteristic cases:

50. IN PETROVO SELO.—Where the peasants of Brodski Slatnik were murdered, as described in Paragraph 38 herein, the victims were brutally tortured before being murdered. These unfortunates' arms were broken, they were pelted with bricks, and while in agonizing pain from such terrific mutilation, they were killed by dum-dum bullets.

51. There were instances where some victims were smeared with feces while other victims were forced, at the point of a gun, to lick their bodies. The crushing of victims' heads with iron bars, or beating victims into insensibility with sacks filled with stones were other methods used.

Peasant Popovich suffered twisting of the testicles. In the Nova Gradiska goal, one Mirko Trninich, a resident of the same town, was flogged and died from the beating. Just before he died he told another victim, who has since escaped to safety, that every night between the hours of 11 and 12, a group of Croats were permitted to enter the gaol and that the Chief Gaoler, Koran, would turn his flashlight upon one of the victims who would then be jumped upon by these sadists and dragged away to a separate cell where they would beat him with sacks of stones.

This man, Trninich, was exceptionally strong and upon offering resistance, about 16 Ustashi converged upon him and beat him so that there was no part of his body that remained uninjured. He reported that in this manner Protich,

a cafe owner, a peasant by the name of Gavro Kovacevich, and another young man, were killed. In the same manner Dr. Galski, an attorney, was tortured and murdered.

52. In the Osek Garrison Gaol, by order of the Ustashi, Matijkovich, a former laborer in a tannery, the arrested Serbs were tortured in the following manner: needles were stuck beneath their nails and they were tied to benches and beaten with wooden sticks.

While they were so tied, their legs were forced apart causing them to suffer agonizing pains. Others were compelled to spit on the Serbian flag and ordered to tear it up with their teeth and eat it. While the victims were doing this they were receiving blows upon their heads and bodies.

The unfortunates were forced also to tramp barefooted over barbed wire stretched over a board. Upon the heads of some of the victims they placed a crown of thorns, thereafter pressing the thorns into their heads, causing them to bleed profusely. They were given good food on very rare occasions and water upon still rarer occasions.

Some of the victims by reason of such treatment became blind and began to faint, after which they were given 200 grams of bread. The food which some of them would receive from their homes, the Ustashi ate themselves. The clergy were forced to clean latrines with their hands and refuse was thrown in their faces.

53. In the vicinity of Gracac, Dr. Veljko Torbica, a physician, was murdered. The Ustashi made deep knife gashes in his chest and thrust salt into these wounds and while suturing the wounds they asked the victim: "Doctor, was the operation successful?"

54. Milos Teslich, an industrialist of Sisak, was tortured in an especially beastly manner. The River Sava threw up his corpse with gouged eyes, a horribly mutilated face and his body and chest cut wide open. Several Ustashi, with smiles on their faces, photographed themselves standing around the body of their victim.



The well known Serb, Teslich, whose heart the Croat Ustashi extracted through the holes on his chest.

55. At Bosanska Kostajaica the victims were crucified alive by being nailed, hands and feet, upon the doors of their homes and after brutal tortures, were knifed to death.

56. In the village of Otoci by Krupa, the wife of Stojan Stopar and his two daughters were raped, murdered and then thrown into the river. There were also instances of the burial of live victims, which was admitted by several Croats.

57. **AT BANJA LUKA.**—Nikola Curcija, a merchant, was murdered in a most gruesome manner. Having been first subjected to unspeakable tortures, his eyes were gouged, his sex organ was cut off, his arms and limbs dismembered and then he was clubbed and stoned to death.

## **FORCIBLE CONVERSION OF SERBIAN ORTHODOX PEOPLE TO CATHOLICISM AND DESTRUCTION OF ORTHODOX CHURCHES**

61. From the very beginning the Ustashi authorities have inaugurated a system of terror, whereby they have forced many Orthodox Serbs to be converted to the Catholic faith. The close co-operation between the Catholic Church and the Ustashi authorities is known, which is also evidenced by the fact that among the Ustashi officials there are a great number of Catholic priests.

The first intimidation for conversion to Catholicism was directed against the State employees, who were advised that in the Croatian State's employ only those Orthodox people might remain who would embrace the Catholic faith, but in effect this was only a ruse. Thus depriving the Serbian people of having their clergy, the Roman church forced the Orthodox people to the Catholic rites.

According to the testimony of Reverend Janko Vejakovich, pastor of Grbovich, the Catholic priests there lead the armed Ustashi in the closing of Orthodox churches and the confiscation of church records, also in the plundering of all church valuables. At Banja Luka, an official order was issued directing that all of the Orthodox Church records (of marriages, baptisms, burials, etc.) be delivered forthwith to Catholic parishes, which order was later extended throughout the territory of the former Croatian province. Catholic priests took possession of the Serbian Bishop's residence at Pakrac and locked and sealed the Cathedral, all of which occurred April 12, 1941.

This was all being done in accordance with the plans of the Croatian State officials, which is evidenced by a speech made by Dr. Victor Gutic, a high Ustashi official of Banja Luka, on July 9, 1941, at Prnjavor. Among other things in his speech on that day, Dr. Gutic said:

"In this countryside there are three churches which were taken away from the Croatian people, one of these is in Prnjavor. Tomorrow you shall take possession of it and

display thereon a sign: 'Croatian Hall.' Those of you who are of the Orthodox religion should at once embrace the Catholic faith so that I need not make special decisions in this respect. And as for this Serbian nest in Prnjavor, I promise, that I will come here and take twenty-four hours time to clean it up. I will kill and you shall follow me." (Apparently Dr. Gutic had in mind the three Russian Orthodox Churches which are located within the district mentioned in his speech.)

On the afternoon of July 10th, 1941, the Serbian Orthodox priest in Prnjavor was thrown out of his residence, his church was confiscated and upon the church edifice there was a large sign "Croatian Hall," displayed. Not long ago, Mile Budak, also a high Ustashi official, publicly declared that upon the territory of the Croatian Independent State only two religions may be recognized, to-wit: the Catholic and the Mohammedan, which meant that the Orthodox religion would not be further tolerated.

#### **REVOLT AGAINST THE USTASHI GOVERNMENT**

65. The heretofore mentioned beastly acts of the Croats: tortures, murders of men, women and children, Catholicising by force, burning of buildings, churches, villages and cities, as early as June 27, 1941, were endured by the Serbs in Croatia hoping that somehow an end would come to such massacres and torture.

However, things were getting worse every day.

Deprived of the protection of any law, oppressed by an unheard of terrorism, the Serbs in Croatia, running away from a sure death, began to leave their homesteads and their possessions and to escape into the mountains to take up arms in defence of their very lives, for that was the only thing to which they could resort under the circumstances.

That is how the alleged "revolt of the Chetniks" began in Hercegovina, Bosanska Krajina, Lika and other parts of Croatia where the Serbs live.

Efforts to exterminate the Serbs, mass murders, economic annihilation, and especially forced deportations from

their own homes without any possessions at all, compelled these unfortunate people to resist. All who could escape, ran for their lives into the mountains, for they had no protection of any kind either from the authorities or from their own leaders, for they were all dead or in refuge.

The people began to help themselves the best they knew how. They took up arms, and with arms, but without food, and often without water, they had to protect their very lives.

These criminal acts on the part of the Croats stirred to revolt this otherwise respectable, pious, law abiding and peace-loving people, who have always been nationalistically very conscious, because their most sacred feelings were deeply hurt. Since all of the clergy were exterminated, the people were forced to the Catholic religious rites, which was the culmination of attacks against the Serbs.

It is to be understood, however, that the people have refused to avail themselves of these and have consequently ceased to celebrate marriages or receive baptism and other religious rites, including funeral services, all of which, it is evident, tends to indicate that by such conduct on the part of the Croatian authorities, the ground for bolshevism and anarchy is being efficiently prepared in these provinces.

In the name of

THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
Bishop Valerian of Budim

### A BULGARIAN RECTOR'S APPEAL

**A Letter from a well-known rector of a Bulgarian Theological Seminary addressed from Sophia, Bulgaria, to the Bishop of the German Protestant Church in Berlin**

Your Eminence:

. . . The possession of the physical properties was taken over by the Roman Catholic Church.

It is quite evident that the Roman Catholic Church in the Croatian State, together with the Roman Catholic clergy and Catholic leaders, were spiritual instigators and in some

instances actual leaders in these persecutions, all in an effort to enforce the conversion of the Serbian Orthodox people into Catholicism.

With the same purpose in mind the state employees of Orthodox faith were warned by printed pamphlets, a copy of which is on file, that in the Croatian State employ only those might remain who embraced the Catholic faith.

#### **"CATHOLIC WEEKLY" APPROVES**

**Roman Catholic and Mohammedan.** "Catholic Weekly" official organ of the Catholic Diocese in Sarajevo, approves the methods of the destruction of the Orthodox Church as being "to the Glory of God" and concludes: "Today the hour has struck when even we among the Catholics, now and forever, shall part with the prejudices against the revolutionary methods which serve truth, justice and honesty.

"The Catholic church is the best educator and instigator of such movements, but there have been many Catholics among whom there were even organs of the church, who failed in their mission.

"Therefore, once and forever, idiotic arguments shall cease, as they are not becoming to those in the service of Christ. The fight against evil and rottenness shall not be waged with gloves or in a fine or noble manner."

#### **CONFESSION OF A CROATIAN USTASHI\***

"In 1938, I came to Belgrade where I have lived continuously up to the present time. At first I peddled various articles along the streets, and later I was engaged as a handy man with the Central Transport Society in Belgrade, No. 1 Kolarcheva Street.

"On the day of the bombardment, April 6, 1941, I was

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\* From the official stenographic record taken in the examination and hearing of Hilmija Berberovich, who with other Croatian Ustashi participated in the massacre of Serbs in the Serbian Church at Glina. The witness, Hilmija Berberovich, was arrested on a charge of suspicion by the Belgrade police, where he was identified as a former building janitor, residing at No. 1 Kolarcheva Street, Belgrade. The witness was born April 15, 1915, at Bosanski Novi, his parents being Hasan, his father, and Halina Hajtovich, his mother. The witness is single, of Mohammedan religion and without previous criminal record.



in Belgrade. Immediately I went to my army command at Sisak, according to my war orders, and there I reported to the commander of the 44th Infantry Reserve Regiment. The Regiment had received orders to proceed to Slavenska Pozega, and from there we left to take up positions in a village on the outskirts of Pozega.

"I don't remember the exact date, but I believe it was the 17th or 18th of April, 1941. I was at home only eight days when I received a notice from the military command in Petrinja to report at once to the Military District in Petrinja. When I reported, I was immediately given a uniform and there I remained in the barracks for a month, where we did military drills according to new regulations.

"At the beginning of the month of June, 1941, my regiment received orders to go to Glina, to restore peace and order in the Glina district, and to collect all weapons and ammunition from the civilians. Before the departure of the regiment, the commander, Captain Josip Dobrich, born in Split, and by profession a teacher, ordered us to search every house and all premises in every town we came to, regardless of whether these homes were of Orthodox or of Catholic citizens. He also ordered us to kill anyone who would resist us.

"Upon our arrival in Glina, we accomplished the searching of the buildings there first, and then after that we went to the surrounding villages. This search lasted for about 15 days. When the search ended, the Ustashi from Zagreb and Petrinja came and then we were ordered to round up all men between 20 and 45 years of age in the villages.

"During this round up, one Orthodox man, in the village of Cemernici, resisted and fired at us. My companion was wounded so I used my rifle and killed him. I do not remember the name of the dead man. In the beginning we arrested men, we rounded them up from the villages and brought them to Glina, and there we placed them in the Court Gaol. They remained in gaol for a few days until the gaols were filled and then the prisoners were killed. The killing was accomplished in more than one fashion.

"Some were locked in the Orthodox Church in Glina. About 1,000 men could stand in that church. Then the commanding captain would order 15 men to execute the work of killing. Before they would leave for this job, they were given alcoholic drinks, to some rum, to others strong whiskey, and when they became intoxicated, they were given knives and sent inside the church.

"During the slaughtering, guards were posted outside the Church. This was necessary because some of the Orthodox men would climb to the belfry, and jump into the churchyard. All of these were killed by the guards in the churchyard. Three times I was ordered to execute the Commander's orders and participate in the killings in the Church. Each time some officers would go along, Josip Dobrich and Mihajlo Cvitkovich, and besides them some of the officers of the Ustashi.

"Upon entering the Church, the officers would stand at the door and watch our work of slaughtering. The killing was done by striking some directly into the heart with a knife, and some across the neck, and others wherever we landed with the knife. If some Serbian survived the first blow, the Ustashi would finish him up with a knife.

"At the time of these killings, no lights were burning in the Church, but special soldiers were designated to hold flashlights which would throw light in the room. Many times it would happen that some Serb would throw his fist at us or kick his foot into our stomachs, but he was immediately cut to pieces.

"During these killings, there was a great deal of noise in the Church. The Serbs would cry out: 'Long live King Peter! Long live Queen Marie! Long live Serbia; Long live the Serbs! Down with Quisling Pavelich! Down with the Ustashi! Down with the State of Croatia!'

"These killings would usually last until about two o'clock in the morning or until the last Serb was killed. These killings in the Church took place seven or eight times, and I participated in them three times. **During these killings we were so soaked with blood that our uniforms could not be**

cleaned, but we would change uniforms at the storehouse, and later wash them out.

"After each slaughter, the Church was washed up and the trucks would come to take away the corpses. They would usually throw them into the river, but some they would bury.

"Some of the men of the Orthodox faith would be taken from gaol and taken to the shores of the nearby river where they would be lined up and shot to death with machine guns. This sort of killing would take in from 300 to 400 men at one time. They would be lined up in two groups along the shore with their hands tied to one rope, and thus standing. they were mowed down by machine guns which were not far away.

"These executions were done by the Ustashi. The corpses of those killed along the shore were thrown into the river. Some groups of Serbs were taken from the gaol and killed in the woods near Glina, and later their bodies were buried in the same place where the killings occurred.

"The round-up of Serbs was done by having about 70 Ustashi and about 30 of us soldiers go to a town, all being under the command of Ustashi officers. The town was always surrounded and a designated group went in to round up the Serbs. When gathered, they were taken, under guard to the court gaol in Glina.

"At first we took only men, but later we were ordered to bring along women also from 15 to 50 years of age. During these trips I saw some of the Ustashi and my companions rape the women and girls, and later they would take them to Glina. Here they would all be placed in the court gaol, and later taken to some requisitioned houses which were transformed into military outposts. They remained there from eight to ten days, after which they were permitted to return to their homes.

"I saw outposts some of the Ustashi would enter at night and take away the women upon whom they wanted to force their lovemaking, to some spot on the outskirts of town, and later return them to the outposts. This practice

was not forbidden by the officers, and some of the officers did the same thing.

"My regiment had the task of gathering all the Serbs in Glina and in the Glina district, but it was ordered that all the Serbs from the districts of Topusko and Vrgin Most were to be taken to Glina, and there executed. I don't know how many Serbs were executed, but from conversation with my companions, I should say there were about 120,000 Serbs killed in Glina.

"During these round-ups of Serbs, many of them escaped to the forest with weapons, and some of them are still in Petrova Gora. Once the Ustashi went to find them, but the Serbs pounced upon them and fought them. About August 20th of this year, a notice was posted inviting all Serbians to return to their homes and their work, and this time we were ordered not to touch or kill any of them. Whoever should disobey this order was to be court martialed.

"I stayed in Glina until September 3rd, 1942, when I was discharged because other soldiers were called for drilling. From Glina I returned to Belgrade with the intention of returning to my old job, but I was gaoled by the police.

"To the above I have nothing more to add. These minutes were read to me and my statements were recorded exactly as I stated them. I am literate.

"At Belgrade, October 20, 1942.

"(Signed Hilmija Berberovich."

### **CROAT'S PLEA WHICH REMAINS UNHEEDED**

(The following is a letter written by Mr. Prvislav Grizogono, a Croat—former minister in the government of Yugoslavia, to Dr. Aloisius Stepinac, Croat Roman Catholic Archbishop of Zagreb. The letter was written at Zemun, February 8, 1942.

Your Grace:

"I write this to you as man to man, as a Christian to a Christian. I have held this up for months in the vain hope that the terrible news from Croatia would cease so that I



**A Serbian victim of the Croats Ustashi whose brain was extracted**

could settle my mind and write you in a more amiable atmosphere.

"For fully ten months now, however, the Serbs in Croatia are being exterminated in a most beastly manner, with billions of their property subjected to destruction, while the face of an honorable Croat blushes with shame and anger. Since the first day of the Independent Croatian State, the Serbs have been massacred (Gospich, Gudovac, Bos. Krajina, etc.) and this massacring has continued to this day.

"These atrocities do not amount to simple killings alone. They aim at the extermination of every Serb, men, women and children, and with terribly-wild tortures of the victims. These innocent Serbs were stuck on poles alive and fires built on their bare chests. Literally they were roasted alive, being burned to death in their homes and in their churches.

"In many cases boiling water was poured on living victims before their mutilation, their flesh was salted and their eyes gouged out while they were still living, their ears and noses were lopped off and their tongues cut out. The beards and mustaches of clergy, together with their skin were ripped off by knives, while the victims' sex organs were cut off and stuffed into their mouths. Some were tied to trucks and dragged, while other victims had their arms and legs broken and their heads spiked.

"Their heads were smashed by crowbars, many were thrown into the deep cisterns and caves, and then literally bombed to pieces. Their children were thrown into fire or scalding water, and then fed to the fired lime furnaces. Other children were torn apart by the legs, their heads were crushed against walls and their spines were broken against rocks.

"These and many other methods of tortures were employed against the Serbs—tortures which normal people cannot conceive. Thousands upon thousands of Serbian bodies floated down the Sava, Drava and Danube rivers and their tributaries. Many of these bodies bore tags: 'Direction—Belgrade, to King Peter.' In one boat on the Sava, there was a pile of children's heads with a woman's head (presumably that of the mother of the children) labelled: 'Meat for Jovan's Market—Belgrade' (meaning meat for the Serbian market).

"The case of Milenka Bozinich from Stapandza, is a particularly gruesome one, because they ripped her unborn child out of her with a knife. In Bosnia, a huge pile of roasted heads were found. Utensils full of Serbian blood were also discovered—this was the hot blood of their murdered brothers that other Serbs were forced to drink.

"Countless women and girls were raped; mothers in the presence of their daughters and daughters in the presence of their mothers, while many women, girls, and small children were ushered off to Ustashi garrisons to be used as prostitutes.

"Rape was committed even before the altars of the Orthodox Church. In Petrinja County, for instance, a son was forced to attack his mother. About 3,000 Serbs were murdered in the Serbian Orthodox Church at Glina and the massacre of Serbs before the altar at Kladusha with sledge hammers is something that may never be mentioned in history.

"There are detailed and official minutes (reports) of these unheard of crimes. They were so terrible as to have shocked even the Germans and the Italians. Many pictures were taken of these massacres and torture orgies.

"The Germans claim the Croats did these same things during the 'Thirty-Years' War and that, since then, there has been a proverb in Germany: 'God save us from cholera, hunger and the Croats.' Even the Germans from Srem hate us and act more or less humanly towards the Serbs. The Italians have photographed a utensil holding 31½ kilograms of Serbian eyes, and one Croat who came to Dubrovnik decorated with a string of eyes and with two wreaths of Serbian tongues.

"The horror in the camps where thousands of Serbs were murdered or left to die from hunger, cold and mistreatment, is indescribable. The Germans tell about one camp in Lika in which the Croats confined thousands of Serbs. Yet when they came there, they found the camp empty, flooded with blood, and clothing strewn everywhere.

"Today, in the camp of Jasenovac, thousands of Serbs are being tortured and murdered. In this bitter winter, they're kept in Gypsy barracks without enough straw or covers, and their food consists of but two potatoes a day.

"Nothing like this has ever happened in the history of Europe. We must go to Asia, to the times of Temerlan and Ghengis Kahn, or to Africa, to the states of beastly Negro rulers to find anything similar. The Croatian name has been blemished with dishonor and shame for centuries for these atrocities. Nothing can clear us now. We won't dare mention our 'thousand-year-old culture' even to the last Gypsy

in the Balkans any more, because even Gypsies were never so beastly.

"Why I do write this to you, since you are not a political character and not responsible for this? Here is why: In all these unprecedented crimes, worse than pagan, **OUR CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN TWO WAYS.**

● First, a large number of priests, clerics, friars and organized Catholic youth actively participated in all these crimes, but more terrible even Catholic priests became camp and group commanders and, as such, ordered or tolerated the horrible tortures, murders and massacre of a baptized people.

● **ONE CATHOLIC PRIEST SLIT THE THROAT OF AN ORTHODOX SERBIAN MINISTER.** None of this could have been done without the permission of their Bishops and if it was done, they should have been brought to the Ecclesiastical Court and unfrocked. Since this did not happen, then ostensibly the Bishops gave their consent by acquiescence at least.

● The Catholic Church has used all means to Catholicise forcefully the remaining Serbs. And, while the land streamed with the innocent blood of martyrs and while the moanings of the surviving unfortunates were still audible, **the friars and nuns carried Ustashi knives in one hand and a Cross and a prayer-book in the other.** The province of Srem is covered with the leaflets of Bishop Akshamovich, which were printed in his own print shop at Djakovo. He calls upon the Serbs through these leaflets, to save their lives and property, recommending the Catholic faith to them. It would seem our Church wanted to prove it could murder souls like the Ustashi do bodies. And worse suspicion falls here upon the Catholic Church because, at the same time, many Serbian Churches were destroyed, while others were converted into Catholic.

"Though we Croatians shall never be able to erase this shamefulness which we have brought upon ourselves with



these crimes, we can at least lessen our responsibility before the world and our conscience if we raise our voices in protest against all this infamy.

"This is the last hour for us to do so. After all the great crimes in history, punishments follow. What will happen to us Croats if the impression is formed that we participated in all these crimes to the finish?

"Again, it is the duty of the Church to raise its voice: first, because it is a Church of Christ; second, because it is powerful. The great Catholic Bishop in Germany had the courage to raise his voice in behalf of the haunted Jews, yet in our country not one Bishop has decried the fate of the innocent Christian Serbs who have suffered more than the Jews in Germany. For this reason the greatest responsibility and both divine and human punishment shall fall upon the heads of the Catholic Church and also upon the people if they do not repent in time for these grave and terrible sins.

"I write you this—about these terrible crimes—to save my soul and I leave it to you to find a way to save your soul.

(Signed) Prvislav Grizogono."

Former Minister of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia  
At Zemun, February 8, 1942.

By the time you have read thus far your heart will be sad and, no doubt, you will be filled with amazement that such terrible things could happen in this supposedly enlightened age. That these crimes should be perpetrated in the name of religion and so-called Christianity is galling in the extreme to every lover of the meek and lowly Jesus. But to be stirred only either sympathetically or indignantly is not enough. It is because we can see the trend of affairs in Canada leading to a similar climax in this country that we of the Canadian Protestant League have taken the step in faith of having this book published to warn the people.

God says to the prophet Ezekiel:

"Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, when I bring the sword upon a land, if the

people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:

"If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;

"Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

"He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

"But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand." Ezek. 33: 2-6.

We remember the tragedy of Pearl Harbour, which was said to be the fault of an unfaithful watchman who held up the message for seventeen hours. We feel it our bounden duty to warn the people of Canada that the Church of Rome has taken possession of this land. This could never have occurred had it not been for the indifference of Protestants and the refusal of some of the finest Christians to witness against the idolatry of Romanism and to evangelize Roman Catholics.

From a booklet written in America called "The Freedom of Worship," the author of whom is Francis J. Connell, a Redemptorist priest, which bears the imprimatur (approval) of Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, dated April 6th, 1944, we cull the following quotations which should impress on Protestants that Rome means to do the same in America and Canada as she did in Yugoslavia and is doing in Spain and Greece at the moment of writing—when the opportune moment arrives.

#### **"THE FREEDOM OF WORSHIP": THE CATHOLIC POSITION**

No one has a real right to accept any religion save the Catholic religion, or to be a member of any church save the

Catholic Church, or to practice any form of divine worship save that commanded or sanctioned by the Catholic Church. (Page 4.)

Hence, the mere fact that a person sincerely believes a certain religion to be true gives him no genuine RIGHT to accept that religion in opposition to God's command that all must embrace the one true religion. Neither does it necessarily oblige others to allow him the unrestricted practice of his religious beliefs. (Page 7.)

The Catholic, convinced as he is that the Catholic religion is the only true religion, is intolerant toward other creeds. Above all it is deplorable to meet a Catholic who is hesitant about expressing to his non-Catholic friends the true Catholic position on this subject—who, perhaps, even commits himself to the assertion that everyone has a right to worship God as he individually sees fit. How can such a Catholic regard himself as a loyal follower of Jesus Christ? (Page 8.)

If the country is distinctively Catholic—that is, if the population is almost entirely Catholic, and the national life and institutions are permeated with the spirit of Catholicity—the civil rulers can consider themselves justified in restricting or preventing denominational activities hostile to the Catholic religion. They are justified in repressing written or spoken attacks on Catholicism, the use of the Press or the mails to weaken the allegiance of Catholics towards their church, and similar anti-Catholic efforts. (Page 11.)

### SECRET SOCIETY

In Australia at present a sinister secret society, known as "The Order of Maal" is seeking to recruit children of 14 years old and upwards from all sections of the community. In a letter written inviting a young Australian Protestant to join this society, one of the conditions mentioned is Rule 4: "Parents **must not** know that their son or daughter is a member of this society. Occasionally parents will find out. If this happens we **must be notified immediately**. Parents sometimes open their children's letters. If your parents have

this habit you cannot become a member until they lose it."

We have evidence that members of this sinister organization are worming their way into youth movements and enticing Protestants, who are ignorant of their real designs, to join their ranks.

When the rebellion of 1916 was being prepared in Ireland, young people were drawn into similar secret societies and led to take bloodcurdling oaths to give them a sense of importance and a feeling that they belonged to something that gave them "power and authority," only to find that they were faced up with a list of names of people that had been chosen by their leaders to be shot. These young people discovered, when it was too late, that they had joined a murder gang and that the penalty of refusing to murder was to be murdered themselves.

It is common knowledge that Roman Catholic Actionist activities have multiplied and are feverishly preparing for the "big day." Some Roman Catholics, unable to keep their vindictiveness completely concealed, have issued veiled threats to Protestants, telling them that "their day is coming."

Recently in Darwin a Mission Worker was seeking to lead an immigrant to Christ. The immigrant said to the Protestant Missionary, "I am not interested to discuss religion with you, but I am going to tell you something. We had our instructions, before we came into this country, to be ready at a given signal to murder every Australian man and woman who refused to submit to our holy Mother the Church."

The continual industrial strife is yet another part of the "grand plan" of Rome.

Carried out under the cloak of Communism, by Roman agitators or their dupes, these strikes are designed to cause a Revolution, which would provide the opportunity for "Catholic Action" to spring to action to deliver the country from the "Communist Menace," and, incidentally, slaughter the Protestants.

### R. C. AGITATORS

As our present Labor Government is very willing to oblige the Vatican we suggest a much simpler method of dealing with the Communistic menace would be to introduce a compulsory secret ballot. If Rome is genuine in her desire to stop strikes she could issue an order to her own people to refuse to partake in strikes. As her dupes carry out her instructions, this should solve the trouble as most of the agitators are Roman Catholics.

Dumps of ammunition and equipment have mysteriously disappeared. Lorries loaded with ammunition have been seen entering monasteries and convents. Mysterious parties have been held in certain Roman Catholic homes where there was neither singing nor dancing, but the sound of heavy trucks driving up and unloading of evidently heavy cases, which could be heard by neighbors.

At a demonstration of Roman Catholic cadets in the Waverley Oval recently, a Roman Catholic priest addressing about 500 of these men, boasted that they had 10,000 cadets in connection with their Roman Catholic schools and colleges in Australia, all trained and ready.

Enough has been said to call all Christians to earnest prayer and deep repentance for past failures. Those who have not, as yet, learned the value of an open Bible and the freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience would do well to think seriously and to ask themselves whether they are ready to face the tortures and fiery trials through which the unfortunate Serbs have passed.

God says :

"If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chron. 7: 14.

Perhaps you who are reading this book would like to do something definite about it. Perhaps you have realized that, although Christ died for your sins, you have never

availed yourself of the free pardon He purchased for you.

Why not now repent and accept Christ and then if these tragedies must be faced, at least you will be ready and will know that "to be absent from the body" is to be "at home with the Lord"? You will then be able to say with the Apostle Paul, "I know Whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him, against that day." To help some to come to the point of decision we suggest this little prayer which has been a help to many:

"Thank you, Lord Jesus, for dying for me; Come into my heart Lord Jesus, and wash away my sins and fill me with Thy Holy Spirit and make me Thine own child, now and forever." Amen.

The Lord Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear My voice and open the door I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with Me." Rev. 3: 20.

The facts contained in this book are vital to all Protestants. When read pass the book on to your friends that they too may be informed and warned of Roman Catholic brutalities.

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